

4 storing the provided data format information in a persistent registry; and  
5 under control of the client,

6 retrieving from the persistent registry the stored data format information; and  
7 determining from the retrieved data format information data formats supported by  
8 the server.

1 28. The method of claim 27 wherein the server code is code executed during  
2 installation of the server.

1 29. The method of claim 27 wherein the server code is code executed when  
2 the server is launched.

1 sub 30. The method of claim 27 including when the server supports a data format  
2 that is compatible with the client, launching the server.

1 31. The method of claim 30 wherein the client is executing in a process and  
2 the server is launched in a separate process.

1 32. The method of claim 30 wherein the client is executing in a process and  
2 the server is launched in the same process.

1 33. The method of claim 30 wherein the client and the server exchange data  
2 using a compatible format.

1 sub 34. The method of claim 27 wherein the client determines the data formats  
2 while the server is not executing.

1 35. A computer-based method for determining the data formats that are  
2 supported by a server, the method comprising:

3 retrieving from a persistent registry data format information, the data format  
4 information being provided by server code for storage in the persistent registry; and  
5 determining from the retrieved data format information data formats supported by  
6 the server.

1 36. The method of claim 35 including when the server supports a data format  
2 that is compatible with the client, launching the server.

1 37. The method of claim 36 wherein the client is executing in a process and  
2 the server is launched in a separate process.

09247155 030099

1 38. The method of claim 36 wherein the client is executing in a process and  
2 the server is launched in the same process.

1 39. The method of claim 36 wherein the client and the server exchange data  
2 using a compatible format.

1 *sub C37* 40. The method of claim 35 wherein the client determines the data formats  
2 while the server is not executing.

1 41. A computer-based method for supplying data format information for data  
2 formats supported by a server, the method comprising:

3 under control of server code,

4 retrieving the data format information; and

5 storing the data format information in a persistent registry so that a client  
6 can retrieve the data format information from the registry and determine the data formats that are  
7 supported by the server.

1 42. The method of claim 41 wherein the client determines the data formats  
2 while the server is not executing.

1 43. The method of claim 41 wherein the server code is code executed during  
2 installation of the server.

1 44. The method of claim 41 wherein the server code is code executed when  
2 the server is launched.

1 45. The method of claim 41 including when the server supports a data format  
2 that is compatible with the client launching the server

1 46. The method of claim 45 wherein the client is executing in a process and  
2 the server is launched in a separate process.

1 47. The method of claim 45 wherein the client is executing in a process and  
2 the server is launched in the same process.

1 48. The method of claim 45 wherein the client and the server exchange data  
2 using a compatible format.

1 *sub C37* 49. A computer-readable medium containing instructions for causing a  
2 computer system to provide a client with data format information relating to data formats  
3 supported by a server, by:

under control of server code, providing the data format information;  
storing the provided data format information in a persistent registry; and  
under control of the client,

retrieving from the persistent registry the stored data format information;

and

determining from the retrieved data format information data formats  
supported by the server.

50. The computer-readable medium of claim 49 wherein the server code is  
code executed during installation of the server.

51. The computer-readable medium of claim 49 wherein the server code is  
code executed when the server is launched.

52. The computer-readable medium of claim 49 including when the server  
supports a data format that is compatible with the client, launching the server.

53. The computer-readable medium of claim 52 wherein the client is  
executing in a process and the server is launched in a separate process.

54. The computer-readable medium of claim 52 wherein the client is  
executing in a process and the server is launched in the same process.

55. The computer-readable medium of claim 52 wherein the client and the  
server exchange data using a compatible format.

56. The computer-readable medium of claim 49 wherein the client determines  
the data formats while the server is not executing.

57. A computer-readable medium containing instructions for causing a  
computer system to determine the data formats that are supported by a server, by:

retrieving from a persistent registry data format information, the data format  
information being provided by server code for storage in the persistent registry; and

determining from the retrieved data format information data formats supported by  
the server.

58. The computer-readable medium of claim 57 including when the server  
supports a data format that is compatible with the client, launching the server.

1 59. The computer-readable medium of claim 58 wherein the client is  
2 executing in a process and the server is launched in a separate process.

1 60. The computer-readable medium of claim 58 wherein the client is  
2 executing in a process and the server is launched in the same process.

1 61. The computer-readable medium of claim 58 wherein the client and the  
2 server exchange data using a compatible format.

1 62. The computer-readable medium of claim 57 wherein the client determines  
2 the data formats while the server is not executing.

1 63. A computer-readable medium containing instructions for causing a  
2 computer system to supply data format information for data formats supported by a server, by:

3 under control of server code,

4 retrieving the data format information; and

5 storing the data format information in a persistent registry so that a client  
6 can retrieve the data format information from the registry and determine the data formats that are  
7 supported by the server.

1 64. The computer-readable medium of claim 63 wherein the client determines  
2 the data formats while the server is not executing.

1 65. The computer-readable medium of claim 63 wherein the server code is  
2 code executed during installation of the server.

1 66. The computer-readable medium of claim 63 wherein the server code is  
2 code executed when the server is launched.

1 67. The computer-readable medium of claim 63 including when the server  
2 supports a data format that is compatible with the client launching the server.

1 68. The computer-readable medium of claim 67 wherein the client is  
2 executing in a process and the server is launched in a separate process.

1 69. The computer-readable medium of claim 67 wherein the client is  
2 executing in a process and the server is launched in the same process.

1 70. The computer-readable medium of claim 67 wherein the client and the  
2 server exchange data using a compatible format.

09247136 020899